

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

/102 W

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R 091130Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4775

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0817

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, SF

SUBJ: CALTEX REFINERY EXPANSION

1. SUMMARY. CALTEX HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR REFINERY EXPANSION WORTH 135M. DOLLARS AT CAPE TOWN TO IMPOROVE REFINES PRODUCT YIELD AND INCREASE CAPACITY BY 73 PERCENT BY JULY 1978.

2. CALTEX PRESS RELEASE SEPTEMBER 8 ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR TWO STAGE EXPANSION OF ITS MILNERTON REFINERY AT CAPE TOWN WITHIN NEXT THREE YEARS. DAILY CAPACITY OF REFINERY WILL BE INCREASED BY ABOUT 73 PERCENT, WITH ANNUAL CAPACITY RAISED TO FIVE MILLION METRIC TONS.

3. MAJOR UNITS INVOLVED ARE NEW CRUDE DISTRLATION PLANT, CATALYTIC CRACKING FACILITIES FOR MANUFACTURE OF GASOLINE, AND SULPHUR REMOVAL AND RECOVERY FACILITIES. TOTAL COST WILL BE 96 MILLION RAND (DOLLARS 135M.), INCLUDING SUBSTANTIAL LOCAL CONTENT. HIGH COST OF PROJECT IS RELATED TO DECISION TO MAXIMISE UNCLASSIFIED

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YIELD OF LIGHT PRODUCTS WHICH WILL ACCOUNT FOR 80 PERCENT OF

REFINERY THROUGHPUT.

4. R6 MILLION (DOLLARS 8.5M) WILL BE SPENT ON PRECENTING WATER AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT TO REMOVE AND RECOVER SULPHUR COMPOUNDS FROM REFINERY GASES, WATER SRIPPING FACILIIES TO REMOVE ODORS, PURIFICATION FACILITIES FOR EFFUENT WATER AND TALL STACKS FOR THE FURNACES.

5. PROJECT WILL BE FINANCED BY COMBINATION OF INTERNAL FUNDS, LOCAL BORROWINGS AND POSSIBLY OFFSHORE LOANS. LOCAL MANUFACTURE OF REFINED PRODUCTS FROM IMPORTED CRUDE OIL WILL RESULT IN ANNUAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE SAVINGS OF ABOUT R30 MILLION (DOLLARS 42M.).

6. PRESS REPORTS MANAGING DIRECTOR W. MARSHALL SMITH SAID DESIGN AND ENGINEERING STUDIES WERE WELL ADVANCED, AND THAT FIRST STAGE, DIE FOR COMPLETION IN MARCH 1977, WILL IMPROVE YIELD OF REFINED PRODUCTS. SECOND STAGE, TO BE COMPLETED BY JULY 1978, WILL INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 61,000 BBL/DAY (ABOUT 3 M.TONS A YR.) TO 105,000 BBL/DAY (5M. TONS A YR.).

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Message Attributes

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